

At-Home Reading and Writing Activities



Preschoolers

- Read a bedtime story.
- Read the same books over and over.
- Give your child markers or paper and pencils and encourage “writing.”
- Give your child a chalkboard and chalk.
- Write messages to your child.
- Label your child’s possessions.
- Put magnetic letters on the refrigerator.

Five and Six Year Olds

- You read to me and I’ll read to you.
- Fill in the blanks. Read poetry and verse that rhymes. Stop before the end of the line, having your child fill in the missing word.
- Play sound games. A simple starter is, “Riddle, riddle, ree. I see something you don’t see and it starts with T.”
- Create a newspaper.
- Write a wish list.
- Make a calendar and note events.
- Write a fill-in-the-blank story.
- Write a biography or autobiography.
- Make a board game.
- Start a memory box.
- Cook from a book.

Seven and Eight Year Olds

- Write a book about something real or imagined.
- Keep a journal.
- Write a thank-you letter.
- Write your own cards.
- Keep score at sports events.
- Start a scrapbook.
- Explore your family’s letters and albums.

Nine and Ten Year Olds

- Read riddles.
- Play thinking games.
- Work on projects.
- Support scout activities.
- Write fractured fairy tales.
- Create a camera story.
- Write a text for wordless books.

Eleven and Twelve Year Olds

- Put a book in your child’s room.
- Tell about a book you enjoyed.
- Start your child on a new series.
- Share newspaper articles.
- Keep a journal.
- Discuss materials read.